

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An adjustable post support for supporting a post above the ground comprising:

a lower spike portion and an upper bracket portion, said lower spike portion comprising an upper end with a first curved dome, said bracket portion comprising a second curved dome corresponding to said first curved dome and an upstanding sleeve extending upwardly therefrom, said first and second domes nesting with one another to provide a ball and socket type connection between said lower spike portion and said upper bracket portion;

fastening means for tightening of said first and second domes together; and

a support table inside said sleeve.

2. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said sleeve comprises upstanding side walls and said support table comprises a support face oriented substantially perpendicular to said walls and a support member extending substantially perpendicularly from said support face towards said second curved dome.

3. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said first and second curved domes curve outwardly and away from said spike portion.

4. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said first and second curved domes each include a central opening.

5. (Original) The post support of claim 4 wherein said fastening means fits through said central openings of said first and second domes.

6. (Original) The post support of claim 4 wherein said support table is above each of said central openings of said first and second domes.

7. (Original) The post support of claim 5 wherein said support table is above said fastening means and each of said central openings of said first and second domes.

8. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said support table includes a central opening.

9. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein at least one of said walls of said sleeve defines a slot adjacent said second curved dome.
10. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said spike portion comprises a plurality of spike blades joined centrally of said spike portion with one another.
11. (Original) The post support of claim 1 wherein said fastening means comprises a threaded nut and a threaded bolt.
12. (Canceled)
13. (Original) An adjustable post support for supporting a post above the ground comprising:
- a lower spike portion and an upper bracket portion, said lower spike portion comprising an upper end with a first curved dome, said bracket portion comprising a second curved dome corresponding to said first curved dome and an upstanding sleeve extending upwardly therefrom, said first and second domes nesting with one another to provide a ball and socket type connection between said lower spike portion and said upper bracket portion;
- fastening means for tightening of said first and second domes together;
- a support table inside said sleeve; and
- at least one pair of opposed, parallel and spaced flanges extending outwardly from an adjacent pair of side walls of said sleeve, said flanges being adapted to be drawn toward one another.
14. (Original) An adjustable post support for supporting a post above the ground comprising:
- a lower spike portion and an upper bracket portion, said lower spike portion having an upper end with a first curved dome, said bracket portion having a second curved dome corresponding to said first curved dome and an upstanding sleeve extending upwardly therefrom, said first and second domes nesting with one another to provide a ball and socket type connection between said lower spike portion and said upper bracket portion;
- fastening means for tightening of said first and second domes together; and

a support table inside said sleeve, said support table comprising a support face oriented substantially perpendicular to walls of said sleeve and a support member extending substantially perpendicularly from said support face towards said second curved dome.

15. (Original) An adjustable post support for supporting a post above the ground comprising: a lower spike portion and an upper bracket portion, said lower spike portion comprising an upper end, said bracket portion comprising a curved dome and an upstanding sleeve extending upwardly therefrom, said curved dome nesting with said upper end of said lower spike portion to provide a ball and socket type connection between said lower spike portion and said upper bracket portion; fastening means for tightening of said upper bracket and lower spike portion together; and a support table inside said sleeve.

16. (Original) A kit for supporting a post above the ground, said kit comprising:

a lower spike portion and an upper bracket portion, said lower spike portion comprising an upper end, said bracket portion comprising a curved dome and an upstanding sleeve extending upwardly therefrom, said curved dome adapted to nest with said upper end of said lower spike portion to provide a ball and socket type connection between said lower spike portion and said upper bracket portion;

fastening means for tightening of said upper bracket and lower spike portion together; and

a support table inside said sleeve.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 17~~ claim 13 wherein said first and second curved domes curve outwardly and away from said spike portion.

19. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 17~~ claim 13 wherein said first and second curved domes each include a central opening.

20. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 19~~ claim 13 wherein said fastening means fits through said central openings of said first and second domes.

21. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 17~~ claim 13 wherein at least one of said walls of said sleeve defines a slot adjacent said second curved dome.

22. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 17~~ claim 13 wherein said spike portion

comprises a plurality of spike blades joined centrally of said spike portion with one another.

23. (Currently Amended) The post support of ~~claim 17~~ claim 13 wherein said fastening means comprises a threaded nut and a threaded bolt.